



# LINGUISTICS UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER





# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



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## What can I say about the year 2020? It started great!

I was granted a sabbatical for the Spring semester. A sabbatical is not a vacation from the University but rather a period of paid leave (no teaching and no service duties) granted to a university professor for concentrated exploratory study and travel to enhance one's research agenda. I was thrilled. The semester was going to involve in-person collaboration with colleagues, additional travel to a focused workshop in Banff Canada, and a number of conference presentations. Needless to say, none of this occurred.

Instead, we all changed our plans for the rest of the year and adapted. We changed the way we taught, we learned new software to accomplish this, then we learned more new software, we created assignments to provide interaction without being in the same location, we listened to each other and listened to our students, we navigated uncharted territory and we still are. It was frightening and it was truly amazing. Not that I would like to do it again, but it was impressive.

As some of you know, my five years as Chair of the Department of Linguistics are coming to an end in July 2021. As Professor Jie Zhang takes over as Chair, I leave the stewardship of the department in very capable hands.

Since this will be my last Chair's message, I wanted to take a look back to see what we, as a department, have accomplished over the past 5 years.

We celebrated 50 years of the Department of Linguistics in 2017, with a special day of research talks and posters and other festivities. We expanded our undergraduate enrollments, with many students across the University getting introduced to Linguistics through our CORE offerings of Linguistics 106 (Introductory Linguistics), Linguistics 110 (Language and Mind), and Linguistics 320 (Language in Culture and Society). We worked hard to actively engage these students, foster their understanding of the unique aspects of language, and instill a love of linguistics! As a result, our Linguistics major and two minors (we added a minor!) have grown.

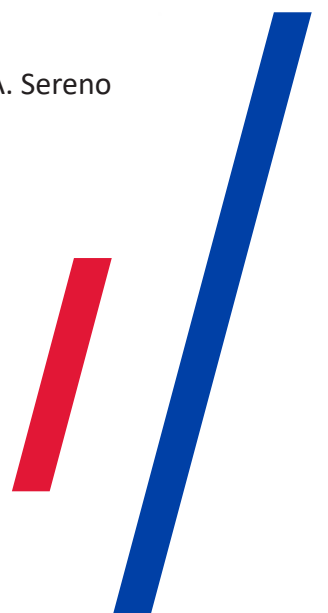
We undertook major fund-raising for the department, starting with the 50th Anniversary (creating donation levels ranging from Verb to WUG to Critical Period levels of giving). We also now have three types of Graduate student awards (Frances Ingemann scholarships) based on merit (both at the M.A. and Ph.D. levels), on timely completion of M.A. and Ph.D. program milestones, and on research needs (including participant/consultant payments and travel costs associated with data collection). We also added Undergraduate awards (Carolyn J. Abel scholarships) for our incredible undergraduate students.

We have expanded our faculty with the addition of a tenure-track Assistant Professor (Gluckman) and two Assistant Teaching Professors (Coughlin, Duncan) and we promoted 3 faculty to the highest academic rank: Full Professors (Fiorentino, Gabriele, Tremblay). And Professor Clifton Pye,

who started here at KU in 1987 and served as Chair from 1994-1997, took his well-deserved retirement. We will miss him! Overall, our faculty productivity in terms of grants and publications is extraordinary and our graduate (and undergraduate) student involvement in research is phenomenal, with research presentations across the virtual globe.

I would like to end by saying how honored I am to be part of this department. I cannot say enough about my colleagues. I could not even imagine these accomplishments with any other set of collaborators and all of you deserve the credit for these accomplishments as well. Thank you for your help and support over the years!

Joan A. Sereno





# Adaptations to COVID

We all did our jobs in the midst of a global pandemic, which means that many of our plans, goals, hopes, and aspirations we had for the year had to be amended to meet the new demands, expectations, and restrictions brought on by the pandemic. Faculty and students faced myriad social and lifestyle changes – adapting their teaching and research, taking care of their own physical and mental health, navigating pandemic-related personal conflicts, adhering to physical distancing, simultaneously educating and caring for children and older relatives, juggling their own household duties, and experiencing safety concerns and barriers to social support.

First, we were intentional about opening lines of communication with students throughout the year by frequently checking in with them, creating a safe and respectful ‘classroom’ environment in which they could feel comfortable giving feedback, and providing them opportunities to engage throughout the semester, both in and out of class. We constructed courses to be rigorous yet highly flexible (and trauma-informed) in order to aid student learning and support student mental health during these difficult times.

In terms of teaching, we adjusted to the new restrictions of the pandemic and designed and delivered courses that were as educational, engaging, and interactive as a typical in-person semester. Some courses were conducted completely online, some were hybrid, some were completely in-person, and yet others switched format weekly. These structural changes meant major and massive overhaul of traditional teaching tools. To foster a course experience similar to a usual semester, we created many new online lectures, new assignments, and new activities to engage students. In-class activities included interactive discussion questions, interactive projects, reflection papers, applied group work (e.g., analyzing scientific findings and providing peer feedback), and demonstrating concepts, all conducted often in virtual space. These assignments took a variety of formats in order to engage students, to help students learn the course material, and to assess their learning in various ways (through using multiple modes as well as formative vs. summative assessments). These new assignments resulted in a great deal of grading to assess student learning and to provide quality feedback.

Research was also severely impacted. The travel ban meant that neither faculty nor students could engage in fieldwork or present and receive feedback at professional conferences. The closing of all research labs was a further major setback. Some experiments could be conducted on-line (requiring a major investment of time to learn new technology). However, other experiments were not amenable to this format and researchers were forced to either postpone their studies or change their focus to questions that could be tested on-line.

Given the social and political climate, 2020 was also a year in which we became much more aware of and proactive in modeling and promoting a diverse, equitable, and inclusive classroom. Through discussion of linguistic topics, our goal was not only to scaffold engagement with these issues within the context of our courses but also to motivate students to make it a lifelong habit outside of the classroom.

It is a complete understatement to say that faculty and students delivered and experienced education in 2020 in a typical fashion.

Joan A. Sereno

## strength in numbers

### KU community joins forces to limit coronavirus' spread

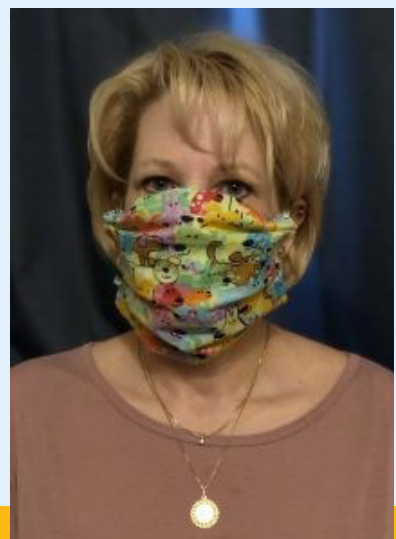
Everywhere you look, Jayhawks are coming together and rising to today's challenges. As the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is felt across the U.S. and the world, students, alumni, faculty, and staff from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences are bringing their expertise to the frontlines and supporting vulnerable populations, applying their diverse talents in labs, hospitals, non-profits, kitchens, essential businesses, and home work stations to address the spread of the novel coronavirus and provide relief within our communities. There's strength in numbers, and if there's one thing we know to be true, it's that incredible things happen when Jayhawks come together with a common goal.

#### Linguistics staff member sews face masks for community

Healthcare providers, first responders, and essential workers across the U.S. are facing a shortage of supplies, including limited access to protective gear like face masks. To help the heroes on the frontlines of the pandemic, as well as other individuals for whom supplies are not readily available, **Corinna Johnson**, an office manager and academic administrative professional in the Department of Linguistics, is doing her part by fashioning cloth masks for “anyone and everyone who requests them – essential workers, nurses, doctors, lawyers, at risk individuals, families, students, delivery drivers, professors, teachers,” and anybody else in need.

At first, Johnson was sewing masks on her own, but after receiving an enthusiastic response to a post on her Facebook page, her mother, DeLois Hussli, came to her rescue and starting sewing as well. “There was no way we were going to turn anyone away,” Johnson said. “That just isn't how our family operates.”

So far, the mother-daughter team have donated over 5000 and are still going strong. Johnson even keeps a stash in her purse just in case she runs into anyone in need during a trip to the grocery store. As she sees it, any action one can take to help flatten the curve is worthwhile right now. “Even though as a country we are social distancing and in isolation, we need to find ways to come together and help each other through this tough time. I simply wanted to try to help in some small way.”



## FACULTY NEWS

**Prof. Caitlin Coughlin** along with collaborators Drs. Lauren Covey (Ph.D. 2018), Xiao Yang (Ph.D. 2020), and Robert Fiorentino continued her work on their project entitled “An ERP investigation of the role of prediction and individual differences in semantic priming”. Additionally, Dr. Coughlin and collaborators Tingting Wang, Nick Feroce, Jesus Briseno, and Prof. Utako Minai presented their work entitled “Examining the origins of errors in processing the quantifier every: An eye-tracking study” at the 33rd Annual CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing.

**Prof. Philip Duncan** published a book chapter with Dr. Harold Torrence entitled “Headless relative clauses in Iliatenco Me’phaa” that appears in the volume *Headless Relative Clauses in Mesoamerican Languages*. Expanding his work on headless relatives to Kiksht, he presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas (in the days of old when in-person conferences were a thing). Dr. Duncan began a new collaborative project on ideophones in Kiksht with recent KU Linguistics alums Pearl Nelson-Greene (B.A. 2020) and Isaac Johnson (B.A. 2020). They presented preliminary findings at the Arizona Linguistics Circle, building on work that Nelson-Greene and Johnson presented at the KU Undergraduate Research Symposium. In addition to working with Me’phaa and Kiksht, Dr. Duncan continued his collaborative work on Ikpana interrogatives with Dr. Jason Kandybowicz (CUNY), Bertille Baron Obi (Georgetown) and Hironori Katsuda (UCLA). Since the start of the pandemic, Dr. Duncan also served as a member of KU’s Faculty Consultant Network and the Teaching and Learning Corps.

**Prof. Robert Fiorentino** and his student and faculty collaborators presented research on language processing in adult native speakers and learners at conferences including the 12th Annual Society for the Neurobiology of Language conference, PhonolEEGy Workshop on Electrophysiology and Phonological Theory, the 12th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Language and Linguistics Society, and the 33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference. Prof. Fiorentino and collaborators also have articles published in *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition*, *Frontiers in Psychology*, *Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics*, the edited volume *Current Theoretical and Applied Perspectives on Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics*, and *Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics*. Prof. Fiorentino continues research on a National Science Foundation funded project, “Examining native language variability and its effects on second language processing: An event-related potentials investigation of referential dependencies” with Prof. Alison Gabriele and collaborators, and on a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant awarded to Ph.D. student Xiao Yang, “Examining the linguistic cues that guide prediction in the processing of Mandarin relative clauses: An ERP study” with Co-Principal Investigators Prof. Gabriele and Prof. Minai. Prof. Fiorentino also worked on enriching the undergraduate research component of his Neurolinguistics II (LING 542/742) course with a Research-intensive Course Grant from the KU Center for Undergraduate Research.

**Prof. Alison Gabriele** continued research related to a grant from the National Science Foundation (\$438,380) which examines the extent to which variability in the native language and second language are related, testing Spanish-speaking learners of English in Spain and English-speaking learners of Spanish in the U.S. The project is a large-scale collaborative effort between researchers in the U.S. (Drs. Alison Gabriele and Robert Fiorentino, University of Kansas; Dr. Lesa Hoffman, University of Iowa; Dr. Julie Van Dyke, Haskins Laboratories) and in Europe (Dr. José Alemán Bañón, Ph.D. 2012, Stockholm University; Drs. Manuel Carreiras and Simona Mancini, Basque Center on Cognition, Brain, and Language). The project, which currently supports one graduate student, is in the midst of data collection, which is fortunately still possible in Spain despite the pandemic. Gabriele published papers in the journals *Glossa* (co-authored with Robert Fiorentino and three KU alumni) and *Second Language Research* and has a co-authored paper in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*. Along with colleagues and graduate students, she presented research at the Neurobiology of Language conference, the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing, and the Annual Meeting of the Illinois Language and Linguistics Society. Gabriele also served as Director of Graduate Studies in Spring 2020 and is currently on the university Academic Policies and Procedures committee.

**Prof. John Gluckman** continues to present and publish his research drawing on fieldwork on Bantu languages of Africa. In 2020, he gave talks at the West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (at University of British Columbia), at Semantics and Linguistic Theory (Cornell, virtual), and at TripleA 7: Fieldwork Perspectives on the Semantics of African, Asian and Austronesian Languages (University of Tübingen, virtual). Prof. Gluckman’s collaborative work with Dr. Margit Bowler (University of Manchester) on modality in Bantu languages was published in *Linguistic Variation and Journal of African Languages and Linguistics*. Working with Dr. Anthony Yates (University of California), he had an article on valency in Hittite published in *Glossa: A journal of general linguistics*. And Prof. Gluckman has an article in press in *Syntax* on expletive subjects in Logoori, a language spoken in Western Kenya. Despite the pandemic, Prof. Gluckman was able to continue and expand his fieldwork on African languages, beginning a project to document the languages of African immigrant communities in and around Kansas, assisted by graduate student Aron Finholt. Prof. Gluckman was also able to write an online textbook for his introductory syntax class (LING 325/725). With the help of Drake Prebyl (B.S. expected 2022), Prof. Gluckman designed and implemented a new data-entry website for Field Methods in Linguistic Description (LING 541/741). In 2021, he is looking forward to building more resources for the documentation and study of African languages here at KU.



**Prof. Allard Jongman** was on sabbatical leave in the spring of 2020. His plan was to extend our understanding of the relation between the production and perception of speech from the segmental domain (individual consonants and vowels) to the suprasegmental domain (lexical tone). Trips were planned to collaborators in Iowa and British Columbia. While the pandemic made it impossible to follow the proposed plan, the leave did allow him to analyze and write up data that he had previously collected, resulting in publications in *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, *Journal of Phonetics* (with Dr. Charlie Redmon, Ph.D. 2020), *Languages* (with Dr. Olga Dmitrieva, M.A. 2005), two book chapters, and a new book contract with Wiley, *Acoustic Phonetics Experiments: A Guide for Speech Scientists* (with Prof. Henning Reetz). In addition, a second substantially revised edition of Reetz and Jongman's textbook in phonetics was published. Jongman also presented 5 posters at the virtual fall meeting of the Acoustical Society of America with graduate students Ruoqian Lucy Cheng, Sheyenne Fishero, and Hyoju Kim as well as colleagues from KU and Simon Fraser University. Prof. Jongman served as Director of Graduate Studies (Fall 2020) and on the Faculty Senate. Over the summer (and well into the fall!), Prof. Jongman got up to speed on teaching on-line. Like everyone else, he missed the personal interactions with students and colleagues and looks forward to returning to campus.



**Prof. Andrew McKenzie** continued his research program in 2020. His paper on Almost at-a-distance was published in *Linguistics & Philosophy*. He did not travel to Oklahoma this summer for fieldwork on the Kiowa language, not only because of travel restrictions, but to help protect the elders who still possess and share their knowledge with us. Luckily, our Kiowa elders are as tech-savvy as anyone, and they were still able to connect for regular Zoom meetings. He also worked with a summer graduate research assistant, Romina Durán, to analyze recordings to finally understand how sentence intonation works in Kiowa. Dr. McKenzie continued his work toward writing a semantic reference grammar of Kiowa, and in the meantime, collaborated on two other projects with scholars of Kiowa. The first is a handbook article on Kiowa's unique and intricate number system, co-written with Dr. Daniel Harbour of Queen Mary University of London. The second is a volume of Kiowa texts, with Dr. Laurel Watkins (Ph.D. 1980) at Colorado College and Dr. Daniel Harbour. This book is the first collection of Kiowa stories, and together they paint the Kiowa perspective of the massive cultural transmission from a traditional nomadic life on the Plains to the modern Westernized life of the 20th century. The team transcribed, translated, and glossed eighteen distinct texts, and added historical and social background for readers. The volume is slated to appear with the University of Chicago Press next year.

Dr. McKenzie also continued his work to expand the impact of linguistics into realms that directly engage the public. In the spring, he published Language Development during Interstellar Travel in the European Space Agency's *Acta Futura* journal, asking: How will language change on a vessel during a journey that could last generations? This work piqued the public's interest, being discussed on KCUR public radio near home, and in national media like *Slate*, *Science Daily*, and the Voice of America. He also gave an invited talk on this project for Rhodes University in South Africa.

His collaboration on how surgeons communicate in the operating room with Dr. Gary Sutkin of the UMKC Surgical Innovation Lab led to a presentation at the annual meeting for the Association for Surgical Education about the prevalence of ambiguous language in surgical environments. The follow-up article awaits review in the journal *Surgery*.

And finally, Dr. McKenzie dipped a toe into Hollywood in 2020. The recent Tom Hanks film *News of the World* features a child character who only speaks Kiowa, and Dr. McKenzie contributed a small bit to it. For authenticity, the producers consulted tribal elders who spoke the language. They hired Dr. Laurel Watkins (Ph.D. 1980) (who wrote a reference grammar on Kiowa) to translate lines into Kiowa and train the actors to speak them. She in turn consulted Dr. McKenzie for some of the trickier phrasing... and to commiserate over proposed dialogue that no Kiowa person would ever say.



**Prof. Utako Minai** continued her research on meaning comprehension and processing, both in children and adult speakers. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, some ongoing projects and international collaborations have been on hold, but Prof. Minai, her students and collaborators have been disseminating research findings and developing new projects during this time. This includes two presentations at the 2020 CUNY Virtual Conference on Human Sentence Processing: one reporting an ERP project on relative clause processing in Chinese supported by an NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant awarded to Xiao Yang (Ph.D. 2020) (with Co-Principal Investigators Fiorentino and Gabriele), and the other reporting an eye-tracking project on quantifier processing co-authored with Tingting Wang and Nick Feroce (current Ph.D. students), Jesus Briseno (an undergraduate student and 2019-2020 Emerging Scholar) and Dr. Kate Coughlin. Prof. Minai also published an article in *First Language*. She has started a new project on Japanese-speaking adults' comprehension of negation with Ph.D. student Ayumi Nobuki; preliminary results will be presented at the SRCD Virtual Biennial Meeting in April, 2021. She also started a project examining the syntactic structure of question sentences in English-Japanese bilingual children, together with Katherine Patz (a Spring 2021 Undergraduate Research Award recipient); results will be presented in Spring 2021.

**Prof. Clifton Pye** made his last conference presentation at the 2020 LSA meeting in January in New Orleans, a distant memory at this point. He presented a paper on the acquisition of noun and verb inflections in Northern Pame with Dr. Scott Berthiaume (The Emergence of Northern Pame (Xi'iu) Morphology among Children) as well as a paper on documenting the acquisition of indigenous languages (Documentation as Acquisition Theory). The latter paper was published in the *Journal of Child Language* (Documenting the acquisition of indigenous languages). Drs. Scott Berthiaume, Barbara Pfeiler and Pye also published a paper on the acquisition of Northern Pame in the same journal (The acquisition of noun inflection in Northern Pame (Xi'iu): Comparing whole word and minimal word accounts). Dr. Pye was also part of a larger project that published a report in *Cognition* on the acquisition of causative constructions (The crosslinguistic acquisition of sentence structure: Computational modeling and grammaticality judgments from adult and child speakers of English, Japanese, Hindi, Hebrew and K'iche' with: Ben Ambridge, Laura Doherty, Ramya Maitreyee, Colin Bannard, Soumitra Samanta, Stewart McCauley, Inbal Arnon, Shira Zicherman, Dani Bekman, Amir Efrati, Ruth Berman, Bhuvana Narasimhan, Dipti Misra Sharma, Rukmini Bhaya Nair, Kumiko Fukumura, Tomoko Tatsumi, Seth Campbell, Clifton Pye, Pedro Mateo Pedro, Sindy Fabiola Can Pixabaj, Mario Marroquín Pelíz, Margarita Julajuj Mendoza).

With Dr. Berthiaume, Dr. Pye is continuing to explore the effects of prosody on the acquisition of Northern Pame. He also partnered with two colleagues in Mexico (Dr. Lourdes de León, Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social Ciesas-Ciudad de México and Dr. Barbara Pfeiler, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México) in a three-year project funded by Fronteras de la Ciencia with the title "Una aproximación integral hacia la documentación de la adquisición de lenguas mesoamericana en desplazamiento" (A comprehensive approach to documenting the acquisition of endangered Mesoamerican languages). The goal of the project is to produce a unified description of the acquisition of four indigenous languages spoken in Mexico: Totonac (Totonacan), Tojolabal (Mayan), Mixe and Popoluca de la Sierra (Mixe-Zoquean). This project has been seriously disrupted by hurricanes and COVID-19, but Dr. Pye hopes to pick up the pieces in the latter half of 2021.

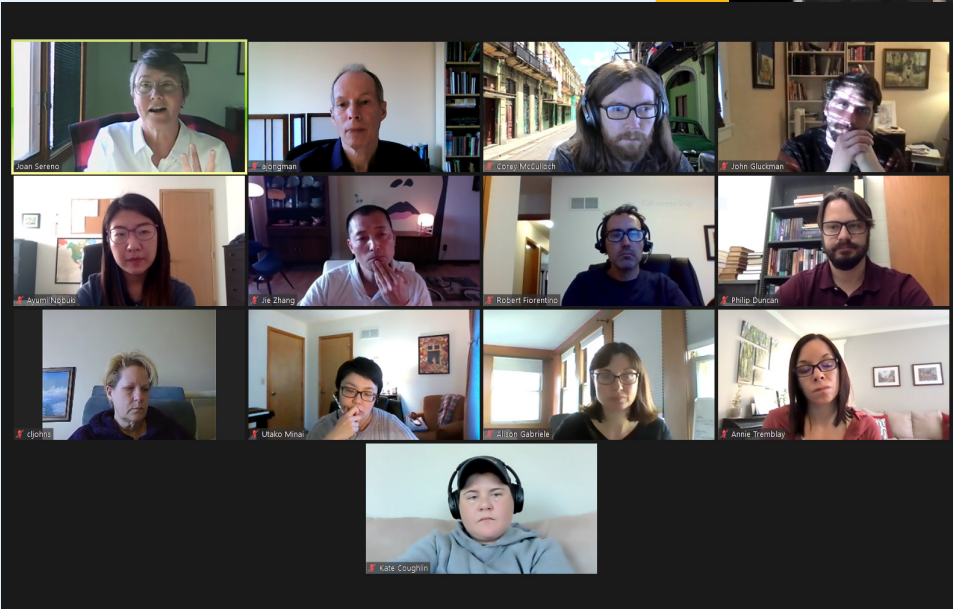
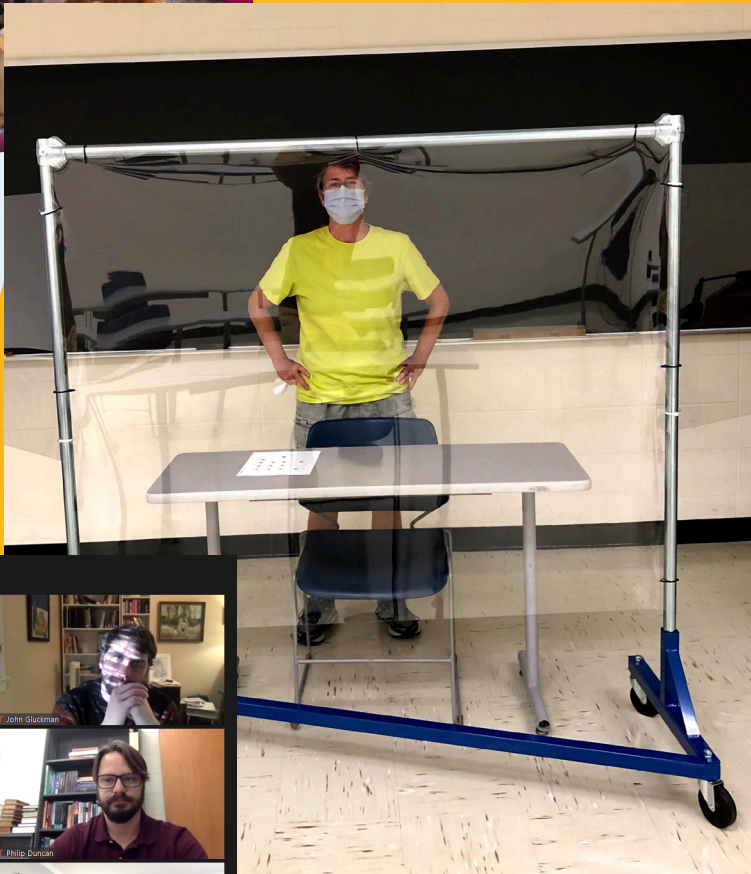
**Prof. Joan Sereno** is Chair of the Department of Linguistics. She continued her research examining acoustic changes and visual contributions as well as perceptual consequences of second language speech with 8 recent articles (helped by a sabbatical research leave in the Spring!). Five articles, with collaborators from Burnaby, Canada, examined auditory and visual cues to the perception of tense and lax vowels (*Journal of Phonetics*, 2020, with Prof. Allard Jongman and Dr. Charles Redmon (Ph.D. 2020)), multimodal cross-linguistic fricative perception (*Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 2020), multimodal perception of tone (Wang, Jongman and Sereno, 2020, edited volume on *Speech Perception, Production, and Acquisition*), the automatic detection of facial articulatory features (*MethodsX*, 2020), and a mathematical approach to extract distinctive acoustic cues to Mandarin tone (Tupper, Leung, Wang, Jongman and Sereno, *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 2020). Two additional articles examined phonological alternations and re-connected with Dr. Yu-Fu Chien (Ph.D. 2016) and Dr. Hanbo Yan (Ph.D. 2016) in *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research* (2020) as well as an MMN study with Dr. Yu-Fu Chien (Ph.D. 2016), Dr. Xiao Yang (Ph.D. 2020) and Prof. Rob Fiorentino (*Frontiers in Psychology: Language Sciences*). A final article examined the effect of second language learning on the acoustic properties of first language speech with Dr. Olga Dmitrieva (M.A. 2005) and Prof. Allard Jongman. Prof. Sereno also gave an invited talk ("Processing Mandarin Tone: What can it tell us?") in Bali, Indonesia – unfortunately, presented virtually – to a crowd of over 300 faculty (including I Nyoman Aryawibawa, Ph.D. 2010) and students at Udayana University in October. Sereno was also recently elected as Council Delegate for the AAAS - section on Linguistics & Language Science (2020-2023) and serves on the Technical Committee on Speech Communication (2020-2023) for the Acoustical Society of America. Prof. Sereno also continues as a Chancellors Club Teaching Professor (2017-2022), an award from the KU Endowment Association that recognizes excellence in teaching. And lastly, Prof. Sereno was selected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in recognition of her "distinguished contributions to the field of linguistics and the language sciences, particularly for psycholinguistic investigations of the multimodal mechanisms underlying language comprehension and production and their neurological foundations".





**Prof. Annie Tremblay** was promoted to the rank of Professor in Spring 2020, and she was awarded an external grant of \$449,000 from the National Science Foundation in Fall 2020. The project, entitled “Enhancing the perception and recognition of spoken words in a second language: A cue-weighting approach,” will examine the effect of perceptual training methods on the perception, encoding, and processing of lexical stress in English by speakers of Dutch, Spanish, Mandarin, and Gyeongsang and Seoul Korean. The project will first elucidate whether the cue-weighting theory of speech perception can provide a strong theoretical framework for understanding the listening difficulties that second-language learners encounter with lexical stress, and for developing training stimuli and methods to enhance the perceptual learning of lexical stress. The project will also help resolve theoretical debates about the mechanisms underlying second-language perceptual learning, the nature and robustness of second-language perceptual representations, and the degree to which adult second-language perceptual learning remains malleable. Last but not least, the project will provide a theoretical foundation for the teaching of second-language speech perception, enabling instructors to tailor teaching practices according to students’ native language and individual abilities, and the effectiveness of training stimuli and methods. The research will be done in collaboration with Dr. Mirjam Broersma (Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands), Dr. Joan Carles Mora (University of Barcelona, Spain), Dr. Taehong Cho (Hanyang University, South Korea), and Dr. Sahyang Kim (Hongik University, South Korea). In 2020, Prof. Tremblay also published a research article in *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition* (with Drs. Taehong Cho and Sahyang Kim and Ph.D. student Seulgi Shin), and she co-wrote two book chapters, one in *The Oxford Handbook of Language Prosody* (with Dr. Allard Jongman) and one to appear in a volume on second-language speech dedicated to the late Dr. Susan Guion Anderson. Prof. Tremblay was also a co-author of four conference presentations (two with Ph.D. student Hyoju Kim and two with Ph.D. student Jinmyung Lee) at the 17th Conference on Laboratory Phonology and at the 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America.

**Prof. Jie Zhang** continued his collaboration with colleagues in Hong Kong, Shanghai, as well as KU to investigate the production and perception processing of words involving tonal alternation in dialects of Chinese. Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, they were able to collect data on two ERP experiments on Mandarin tone production in Hong Kong, two auditory priming experiments on Shanghai and Wuxi tone perception in Shanghai, and an MMN experiment on preattentive tone processing in Mandarin at KU. Results of these experiments have been presented online at the PhonolEEGy Workshop on Electrophysiology and Phonological Theory and the 12th annual meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, and they are in various stages of manuscript submission. His coauthored chapter with Drs. San Duanmu (University of Michigan) and Yiya Chen (Leiden University) on the prosodic systems of Chinese and Siberian languages appeared in print in *The Oxford Handbook of Language Prosody* by Oxford University Press, and he contributed a chapter entitled “Tonal processes defined as tone sandhi” to *The Cambridge Handbook of Chinese Linguistics*, currently in press at Cambridge University Press. He assumed the post of Interim Chair of the Linguistics Department in Spring 2020. During the difficult transition to online learning due to COVID, he was blown away by the resilience and collaborative spirit of the Linguistics faculty, GTAs, and students, who maintained an incredibly high standard in teaching, research, and learning. To our alumni: they have done you proud!





# WENDY HERD (PH.D. 2011)

## 1973 - 2020



**Wendy Herd**, a rising researcher of the production and perception of speech and its social ramifications, passed away, far too young, on August 11, 2020.

Wendy was born on May 19, 1973 in West Plains MO and graduated from the University of Missouri (English and French) in 1995. She then taught high school English, Spanish and French in Miller, MO and was responsible for the second language curriculum, a full-time job she held during most of her graduate career. Wendy became increasingly interested in the theoretical and empirical aspects of second language acquisition and went on to obtain an M.A. in English at Missouri State University (2004) and an M.A. (2004) and Ph.D. (2011) in Linguistics at the University of Kansas. After graduation, Wendy started a tenure-track job in the English department at Mississippi State University, earning tenure in 2017. The same

year, she was also recognized as the Mississippi Public Humanities Teacher of the Year.

Wendy's research was disciplined and expert from the start. Her M.A. thesis consisted of a thorough acoustic and perceptual analysis of close to 10,000 stimuli from 20 speakers (Herd et al., 2011), showing that speakers make small but systematic acoustic differences to distinguish words such as writer and rider, and that the perception of the distinction is driven by word frequency.

Wendy's dissertation on effective training practices for adult English speakers who were learning difficult distinctions among Spanish consonants continued this ambitious tradition, using acoustic, psycholinguistic, and neurolinguistic methods to explore the acquisition of phonetic categories. Wendy's choice of three phonemes (/d, r, r/) differing in phonetic, allophonic, and phonological status across the languages allowed her to go beyond the traditional investigation of the difficulty of learning a novel sound in a second language. This study (Herd et al., 2013) provided the first systematic comparison of the benefits of different training methods, with participants receiving discrete training in either speaking, in listening, or in both. Perceptual training provided the largest gains for second language learners but production training (articulating without hearing one's production) proved to be effective as well.

After her move to Mississippi, Wendy started exploring phonetic drift -- acoustic changes in speakers' first language due to exposure to a second language. She also examined phonetic aspects of Southern English, culminating in a

special session at the 174th ASA meeting in New Orleans, a special JASA issue, and an article in Acoustics Today (Shport and Herd, 2020a and b, respectively). Most recently, Wendy showed that a simple acoustic measure, Voice Onset Time (VOT), may serve as a sociolinguistic marker in Black and white speakers (Herd, 2020).

Wendy's research made pivotal contributions in theoretical, applied, and methodological domains. Her approach was to seek converging evidence from language comprehension and language production, often examining multiple languages, understudied dialects, and second language learners. This research deepens our understanding of the relationship between speech perception and production and the acquisition of new speech categories, with pedagogical implications for language teachers.

Wendy had only just begun to hit her stride, with many ongoing and future projects. We will miss the unrealized academic contributions but, even more so, we will miss her individuality. Wendy will be remembered for her sharp intellect, her positive energy, her tenacity combined with a cheery disposition, and her unending strength and determination. Speech science lost a wonderful human being.

Wendy is survived by her husband of 19 years, Zac Herd, a daughter Breanna and son Jacob, a brother and sister, and her parents.

Allard Jongman and Joan A. Sereno





# GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

[Ruoqian \(Lucy\) Cheng](#) continued her research with native Eastern Min speakers in Fuzhou, China with the support from the Linguistics Graduate Student Research Scholarship. She completed her major qualifying paper about the merging nasal and lateral consonants in Eastern Min and presented this project at Acoustically Virtually Everywhere 2020. She gave a research talk about the [l~n] merger-in-progress at Fudan University in December 2020. Lucy was also selected as the new student representative for the Technical Committee on Speech Communication of the Acoustical Society of America.

[Andrew Collins](#) continued researching second language learners of Spanish. He spent the 2020 calendar year as a Graduate Research Assistant using electroencephalography (EEG) for Dr. Gabriele's and Dr. Fiorentino's internationally collaborative research project with the Basque Center on Cognition, Brain and Language in Spain.

[Nicholas Feroce](#) presented a virtual poster at the 2020 CUNY Conference with graduate student Tingting Wang and Dr. Utako Minai on individual differences in the processing of 'every' by adult native English speakers. He is also thankful to have been awarded a fellowship as part of an NIDCD T32 Training Grant under Professor Mabel Rice. Additionally, he began collaborating with graduate student Henry Pratt and Dr. Alison Gabriele on a project looking at the acquisition of Portuguese as a third language by native speakers of English and Spanish.

[Aron Finholt](#) has continued his research on complementizers and the left periphery, focusing specifically on the Bantu language family. He was recently accepted to give a talk about his ongoing research on the Swahili complementizer system at the Annual Conference on African Linguistics (ACAL) in April 2021. Aron was also awarded a Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship (FLAS) to study Swahili during Summer 2020, and has since continued to progress in the KU Swahili language program.

[Sheyenne Fishero](#) attended the Acoustical Society of America Conference in December 2020 where she presented a poster titled, "The perception and production of Mandarin-accented English: the role of degree of accentedness in the interlanguage speech intelligibility benefit for talkers and the interlanguage speech intelligibility benefit for listeners." Sheyenne received the Early Career Excellence in Linguistics Award, the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant in Linguistics Award, the M.A. Completion Linguistics Achievement Award, and the ASA Student Participation Grant in 2020.

[Shuxiao \(Donald\) Gong](#) finished his major paper project titled, "Modeling Mandarin Speakers' Phonotactic Knowledge". This manuscript has been submitted to *Phonology*. He continues to work in the field of Mandarin phonotactics for his minor paper projects using lexical decision as the experimental methodology.

[Hyoju Kim](#) defended his Master's Research Project titled, "Word-level stress processing in Korean-speaking second language learners of English". He finished his major and minor paper project as well. With respect to conference presentations, he presented three posters this year, including the poster titled "Testing the Cue-Weighting Transfer Hypothesis with Korean listeners' perception of English lexical stress" with Dr. Annie Tremblay at LabPhon 17, the same-titled poster with Dr. Annie Tremblay at the 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (Acoustics Virtually Everywhere), and "The Influence of Inter-Dialect Contact on the Korean Three-Way Laryngeal Distinction: An Acoustic Comparison among Seoul, Gyeongsang, and Bidialectal Speakers" with Dr. Allard Jongman at the 179th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (Acoustics Virtually Everywhere). In addition, he led two workshops held by the Linguistics Graduate Student Association: one for making web-based experiments using PsychoPy and the other for building statistic models using R and R studio.

[Jinmyung Lee](#) presented a poster at the 17th Laboratory Phonology Conference in Vancouver, Canada (virtual) titled, "Testing Korean L2 learners of English on the use of acoustic cues to the /i/-/ɪ/ contrast in English spoken word recognition" in July. She along with Dr. Annie Tremblay presented a poster in December at the 179th meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Chicago, Illinois (virtual) titled, "The effects of acoustic cues in speech perception and spoken word recognition by Korean L2 learners of English".

[Charlie Redmon](#) completed his Ph.D. in 2020 and is now working as a post-doc in the Language and Brain Lab at the University of Oxford. His thesis, advised by Prof. Jongman, is titled "Lexical acoustics: Linking phonetic systems to the higher-order units they encode." He also published a paper, co-authored with Drs. Jongman and Sereno, in the *Journal of Phonetics* titled, "Cross-linguistic perception of clearly spoken English tense and lax vowels based on auditory, visual, and auditory-visual information." Finally, at the end of 2020, Charlie co-chaired a special session at a virtual meeting of the Acoustical Society of America on the development of a centralized, peer-reviewed repository of open-source software, code, data, and educational resources for work in the speech sciences.

[Seulgi Shin](#) co-authored a paper with Dr. Annie Tremblay, Dr. Taehong Cho, and Dr. Sahyang Kim published in *Bilingualism* titled, "Re-examining the effect of phonological similarity between the native- and second-language intonational systems in second-language speech segmentation."



Chang Wang continued to work as a full-time graduate research assistant in Hong Kong to help with Dr. Jie Zhang's NSF-funded project which investigates the neural mechanism and neural basis of tone sandhi production in Chinese. She co-presented the neural encoding of Mandarin T3 sandhi in speech production with Dr. Zhang and collaborators at PhonolEEGy, Electrophysiology and Phonological Theory, 2020. Together with Dr. Jie Zhang and collaborators in Hong Kong, she worked on the write-up of a paper for the tone sandhi production project.

Tingting Wang presented a poster of her major paper, as well as her minor paper at the 33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference (virtual) at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst in Spring 2020. Additionally, she was awarded the Departmental Linguistics Achievement Award for defending her dissertation proposal.

Delaney Wilson presented a talk titled, "The role of morphology and individual differences in the processing of regular and irregular verbs by native English speakers" at the 12th annual meeting of the Illinois Language and Linguistics Society at the University of Illinois: Urbana-Campaign. Additionally, she was invited to give a talk entitled, "Morphological decomposition of regular and irregular verbs and the role of individual differences in native English speakers" for the University of Kansas Child Language Proseminar. She has also been gaining teaching experience as a graduate teaching assistant for LING 320, Language in Culture and Society.

Yuyu (Rustle) Zeng finished her major paper titled, "MMN may not reflect lexical tone as phonemic categories: the involvement of multiple processing mechanisms", minor paper, "Electrophysiological signatures of mapping alternated surface representations to underlying representations of tone", and dissertation proposal oral defense, "The process of producing Chinese monosyllabic words" in the year 2020. Her major paper and minor paper were presented at the SNL 2020 conference, the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language. Her minor paper was presented at the PhonolEEGy 2020 conference, Electrophysiology and Phonological Theory. Yuyu Zeng's co-authored paper, "Dutch Listeners' Perception of English Lexical Stress: A Cue-Weighting Approach", was accepted by the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*. She is now working on her dissertation and the write-up of her major and minor papers.

## GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Nicholas Feroce began collecting data for his dissertation, which examines the effects of explicit training on the comprehension and processing of null and overt subject pronouns in Spanish. Nick adapted his dissertation study to be completely remote by using internet experiment links and Zoom to create a virtual lab space with participants. He also began a pilot longitudinal study with Ana de Prada Pérez (Maynooth University) examining the effects of immersion in Spanish learners' production and comprehension of subject pronouns. In response to COVID, the study now examines the role of telecollaboration as students use an online platform to converse with native Spanish speakers weekly over the course of a semester.

Hao Lin is currently working on research to produce his M.A. research proposal. The topic is feedback type and structure salience in second language acquisition. There has been long-standing research interest in the role of corrective feedback in second language acquisition. Based on the previous research, especially Yilmaz (2012), the current study will compare the effectiveness of implicit feedback versus explicit feedback and examine one important mediating factor—salience of target structures in language acquisition with the following two research questions: Which feedback type is the most effective one, implicit, explicit, or the combination of the two? Can the target structure salience affect learners' performance in the posttests and moderate the feedback type?

Sheyenne Fishero received a Research Scholarship from the department for her major paper investigating the perception and production of Mandarin-accented English. The Interlanguage Speech Intelligibility Benefit (ISIB) is a non-native listener advantage over native listeners at understanding the nonnative speech of a talker with a shared L1, as well as a nonnative listener advantage at understanding the nonnative speech of a talker with a shared L1 compared to native speech. A lexical decision task (including words with shared phonemes in both Mandarin and English, as well as words with phonemes that only occur in English) was conducted for native English and Mandarin-accented speakers and listeners, with accentedness ratings of talkers and listeners collected to investigate whether ISIB is manifested differently for listeners and speakers of different proficiency levels.



**Ayumi Nobuki** has been studying the felicity condition of negative sentences in Japanese. Manipulating visual contexts and a linguistic factor that is specific to Japanese (the topic particle wa), the study investigates what factors are used by native speakers of the language in determining the felicity of negative sentences. The proposal of this study has been accepted for a poster presentation at SRCD (Society for Research in Child Development) 2021 Biennial Meeting, which will be held on April 7-9, 2021.

**Seulgi Shin** is currently working on research for her dissertation project on how prosodic structure influences the phonetic realization of segments in relation to its linguistic function in interactive vs. read speech. The project aims to test what drives phonetic variation in different prosodic positions based on two proposed hypotheses, namely syntagmatic contrast enhancement (CV enhancement) vs. paradigmatic contrast enhancement (phonological contrast enhancement). Further, the project examines how speech style influences such prosodically driven variation. The project is expected to shed light on the role of prosodic structure in speech planning and its implementation in speech production.

**Tingting Wang** is currently working on her dissertation project, which examines variability in the use of discourse-level cues by both English native speakers and Chinese-speaking English learners. Specifically, she will use the online visual-world eye-tracking paradigm to see whether learners are sensitive to discourse-cues that are reported to influence the salience of discourse antecedents. Learners will be tested in both their L1 and L2, and all participants will complete a battery of individual difference measures. By examining how learners use those cues in their L1 as well as examining individual differences further, she hopes to find out whether variability in the use of discourse cues in the L1 and L2 is modulated by similar abilities.

**Delaney Wilson** is continuing her research on the morphological decomposition of inflected verbs. Her major project examines whether native English speakers utilize morphological decomposition in the processing of both regular and irregular verbs and whether individual skills, such as reading speed or vocabulary, modulate processing. Additionally, her minor project examines the production of vowel length in Arabic by native speakers as well as both beginning and advanced learners; she has collected data and is beginning data analysis.

**Wunan Zhang** is currently working with Dr. Tremblay to produce his M.A. research proposal. The research topic is subphonemic effects on spoken word recognition. More specifically, he proposes to investigate how speakers of a particular dialect perceive the same phoneme produced by speakers of another dialect. The current research focuses on a vowel phoneme of Mandarin produced by speakers from different dialectal backgrounds.





# 2020 GTAs

## Spring 2020

Ruoqian (Lucy) Cheng - LING 110  
Aron Finholt - LING 106  
Sheyenne Fishero - LING 312  
Trevin Garcia- LING 110  
Hyoju Kim - LING 435  
Jinmyung Lee - LING 110  
Charles (Henry) Pratt - LING 106  
Fenqi Wang - LING 106  
Delaney Wilson - LING 320

## Fall 2020

Ruoqian (Lucy) Cheng - LING 110  
Romina Duran - LING 110  
Aron Finholt - LING 106  
Sheyenne Fishero - LING 305  
Trevin Garcia - LING 325  
Charles (Henry) Pratt - LING 106  
Morgan Robertson - LING 106  
Nathan Schellenberg - LING 110  
Delaney Wilson - LING 320

## Summer 2020

Jonah Bates - LING 106  
Ruoqian (Lucy) Cheng - LING 110  
Delaney Wilson - LING 320

# Welcome New Graduate Students

## Ph.D. Students

**Amaya Madden** – United States – B.A. in Linguistics and Asian Studies from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill – Research Interests: Japanese, Second Language Acquisition, Psycholinguistics and Neurolinguistics

**Münir Özturhan** – Turkey – B.A. and M.A. in Foreign Language Education from Boğaziçi University, Turkey – Research Interests: Second Language Acquisition, Psycholinguistics, and Neurolinguistics

**Chang Wang** – China – B.A. in Chinese from University of Geosciences, M.A. in Linguistics from University of Hong Kong – Research Interest: Phonology

**Tzu-Hsuan Yang** – Taiwan – B.A. in Foreign Languages and Literatures from National Chiao Tung University, M.A. in Applied Linguistics from Columbia University – Research Interests: Phonetics, Phonology, and Second Language Acquisition

## M.A. Students

**Corey McCulloch** – United States – B.A./B.S. in Romance Languages and Computer Science from University of Missouri, Columbia – Research Interest: Second Language Acquisition

**Morgan Robertson** – United States – B.A. in English and French from University of Missouri, Kansas City – Research Interest: Second Language Acquisition

**Yi (Kevin) Zhang** – China – B.A in Translation and Interpretation from China Foreign Affairs University – Research Interest: Phonetics

# 2020 Linguistics Awards

## FRANCES INGEMANN FELLOWSHIPS:

**Excellence in the M.A. Program in Linguistics:** Nathan Schellenberg

**Early Career Excellence in Linguistics:** Sheyenne Fishero, Hyoju Kim

**Outstanding Achievement in Linguistics:** Tingting Wang, Yuyu (Rustle) Zeng

## FRANCES INGEMANN LINGUISTICS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

**Linguistics Achievement Award - M.A.:** Sheyenne Fishero, Hyoju Kim

**Linguistics Achievement Award - Ph.D.:** Tingting Wang

## DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AWARDS:

**Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant** - Aron Finholt, Sheyenne Fishero

**Outstanding Graduate Student Service** - Ruoqian (Lucy) Cheng, Shuxiao (Donald) Gong

## CAROLYN J. ABEL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS:

**Outstanding Undergraduate Senior Major** - Jessica Grinage

**Distinguished Undergraduate Senior Major** - Anna Holmes, Pearl Nelson-Greene, Matthew Reinhold, Emily Simmons, Elizabeth Zollner

**Distinguished Undergraduate Senior Minor** - Hally Richlefs, Nathan Shapiro

**Distinguished Undergraduate Junior Major** - Diego Acosta, Marilyn Curtis, Ben Gotto, Amber Mikkelsen, Chloe Noteboom, Katherine Patz, Savannah Price

**Outstanding Undergraduate Student Service** - Amber Washington





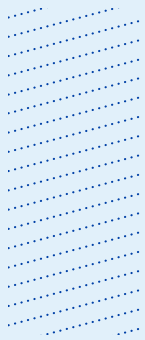
# GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS!

## Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics

**Elayne Carey**  
**Jessica Grinage** - Linguistics Honors Thesis, “Online Processing of Pronominal Dependencies in Second Language Learners”, (Advisors: Robert Fiorentino and Alison Gabriele), University Honors Program Scholar, Global Awareness Program, Research Experience Program  
**Anna Holmes** – Linguistics Honors Thesis, “Quaff(le)s, bludge(r)s, & brooms(ticks): The Language of Quidspeak”, (Advisor: Philip Duncan), Global Awareness Program, Research Experience Program  
**Tom Lieber**  
**Pearl Nelson-Greene** – Linguistics Honors Thesis, “Verbal Nominalization in Badini Kurdish”, (Advisor: John Gluckman), Global Awareness Program, Research Experience Program  
**Matthew Reinhold** – Linguistics Honors Thesis, “Linguistic Attitudes on the Miskitu Coast”, (Advisor: Arienne Dwyer), University Honors Program Scholar, Research Experience Program  
**Haley Schippers** – University Honors Program Scholar, CLAS Honors: Distinction, Global Awareness Program, Research Experience Program  
**Haseop Shin** – Linguistics Honors Thesis, “Memory Interference in the Processing of Reflexives”, (Advisor: Robert Fiorentino), University Honors Program Scholar, CLAS Honors: Distinction, Global Awareness Program, Research Experience Program  
**Emily Simmons** – Linguistics Honors Thesis, “Lexical or Syntactic?: Explaining Exceptional Incorporated Nouns in Kiowa”, (Advisor: Andrew McKenzie), Research Experience Program  
**Hanjing Tao**  
**Jiayue Wang** – Global Awareness Program  
**Zhuoran Wang**  
**Amber Washington**  
**Qiwei Yue** – Global Awareness Program  
**Elizabeth Zollner** – Linguistics Honors Thesis, “The morpho-syntax of diminutives in Latin and Ancient Greek”, (Advisor: John Gluckman), University Honors Program Scholar, Research Experience Program

## Undergraduate Minors .....

**Allison Carollo** – General Linguistics Minor  
**Taylor Clemens** – General Linguistics Minor  
**Kade Eby** – General Linguistics Minor  
**Lauren Huesers** – General Linguistics Minor  
**Austin Langham** – General Linguistics Minor  
**Eunice Ching Pui Ma** – General Linguistics Minor  
**Jarod Mariska** – General Linguistics Minor  
**Hayley Olson** – General Linguistics Minor, Research Experience Program  
**Sienna Poague** – General Linguistics Minor, University Honors Program Scholar  
**Erika Sertic** – General Linguistics Minor, Global Awareness Program  
**Emily Snider** – General Linguistics Minor



# GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS!

## Master of Arts in Linguistics

**Sheyenne Fishero** – “Perception and Production of Mandarin-Accented English: The Effect of Degree of Accentedness on ISIB-L and ISIB-T”, (Advisors: Joan Sereno and Allard Jongman)  
**Trevin Garcia** – “Subject Deletion in Southwest Kansas Latino English”, (Advisor: John Gluckman)  
**Hyoju Kim** – “Word-Level Stress Processing in Korean-Speaking Second Language Learners of English”, (Advisor: Annie Tremblay)  
**Nathan Schellenberg** – “Differential High Vowel Devoicing in Korean Illusory Vowel Perception”, (Advisor: Allard Jongman)  
**Fenqi Wang** – “The Effect of Pitch Accent on the Perception of English Lexical Stress by Native Listeners”, (Advisor: Annie Tremblay)

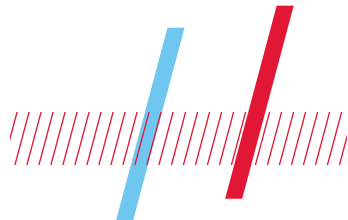
## Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics

**Jonah Bates** – “Typology and Analysis of Person Marking Referent Reanalysis”, (Advisor: Andrew McKenzie)  
**Longcan Huang** – “Modification with De in Mandarin Chinese”, (Advisor: Clifton Pye)  
**Charles Redmon** – “Lexical Acoustics: Linking Phonetic Systems to the Higher-Order Units they Encode”, (Advisor: Allard Jongman)  
**Wenting Tang** – “Number Matters: Enhancing Nominal Number to Facilitate Subject-Verb Agreement”, (Advisors: Alison Gabriele and Robert Fiorentino)  
**Xiao Yang** – “Linguistic Cues Guide Prediction in the Processing of Mandarin Relative Clauses: An ERP Study”, (Advisor: Robert Fiorentino)





# Alumni Updates



**Kristi Bond** (Ph.D. 2013) is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and International Studies at Harding University in Arkansas, where she won one of the university's Teacher Achievement Award in 2018. She is a regular presenter at teaching conferences in the region, and has also presented at a convention of the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages. In 2019, she and her family spent an unforgettable three months traveling with students and teaching in Chile, Peru and Argentina. Kristi teaches Spanish Phonetics, Intermediate Spanish, and foreign language pedagogy classes. In 2020, she completed a draft of a unique, faith-based textbook for the third semester of college Spanish, *Identidad y cultura*, and she is currently working on a fourth-semester textbook entitled *El bienestar del individuo y de la comunidad*. She credits her success in the classroom to the understanding of linguistics and second language acquisition that she acquired at KU Linguistics.



**Rachel Brown** (B.A. 2013) recently completed her Ph.D. in psycholinguistics and cognitive science from the University of Arizona. Her dissertation investigated the processing of semantic and syntactic ambiguity using self-paced reading and electroencephalography (EEG). She now works as a User Experience Research Consultant with UserZoom. She uses her knowledge of experimental design, data analysis, and human behavior to conduct research for Fortune 500 companies. Her research evaluates the usability and customer satisfaction of websites through qualitative and quantitative methods. She lives in Austin, Texas with her husband and cat.



# Alumni Updates



**Maureen Carroll** (B.A. 1994) Since graduating, Carroll has managed the education department for the Kansas Human Rights Commission, and provides training world-wide on management and employment law for SkillPath Seminars. Carroll is currently a writer, educator, photographer, and graphic designer. She founded Anamcara Press LLC in 2014 in celebration of art, community, and the planet, and in support of authors and artists in their creative endeavors. Born on the banks of the Kansas River in historic Lawrence, Kansas, Anamcara Press publishes poetry, fiction, and non-fiction.

She children's art book, *The Tree Who Walked Through Time: Tree Identification Story* was published in collaboration with 7 artists as a community project in 2014. Carroll published *A Wyoming Cowboy in Hitler's Germany* in 2016 to tell the story of H Carroll, a WWII reconnaissance photographer, paratrooper, and POW. She published *Spiders Dance* with artist Bobbie Powell for pre-school children, and disabled or challenged youth in 2017. The middle-school series, *The Adventures of the School's Out Squad* began in response to the pandemic in 2020. Carroll has also published many non-fiction articles and training programs, and blogs about consciousness and community at [maureencarroll.com](http://maureencarroll.com).

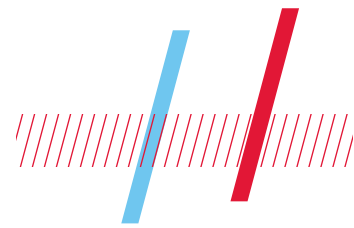
**Amanda Swanson Goff** (B.A. 2014) went on to complete her Master of Public Policy (MPP) at George Washington University in 2018. She will begin her Doctor of Education (EdD) in Organizational Leadership at Vanderbilt University this summer. Amanda's work is focused on educational access and equity for historically underserved students. She is especially passionate about using her linguistics background to provide resources and support to English Language Learners in the K-12 public school system.

Amanda currently lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband Michael and their 18-month-old son Luke. Although Michael attended Texas A&M University, she is intent on making sure that Luke grows up to be a Jayhawk! Rock Chalk!





# Alumni Updates

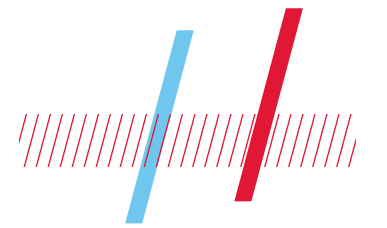


**Kevin Gray** (B.A. 2018) recently left his position as Next Generation Ministry Coordinator at Central United Methodist Church in Lawrence, Kansas, to pursue his Master of Divinity degree in Biblical Languages at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. After graduation, he plans on pursuing a full-time pastorate. Kevin began playing the drums about a year ago, and he just started his own podcast entitled “A Seminarian and Friends”.

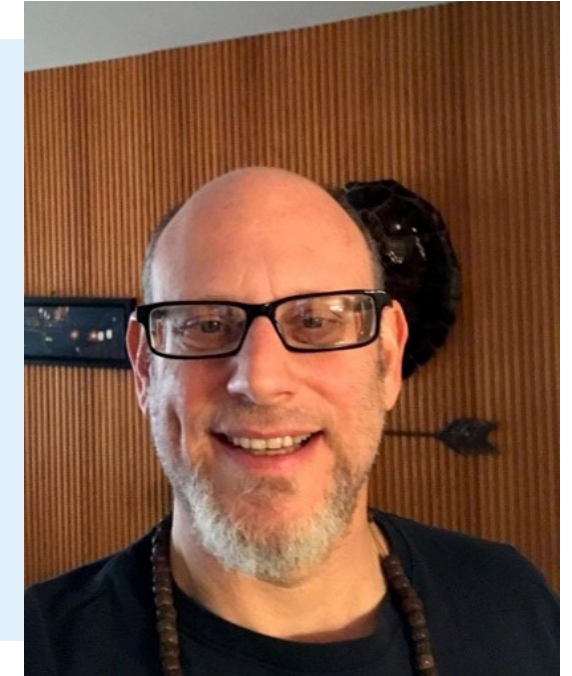
**Jessica Herlinger** (B.A. 2018) in Linguistics and Speech-Language-Hearing went on to complete a Master of Business Administration at the University of Kansas and Graduated in 2019. Currently she is pursuing her doctorate in Audiology at the University of Kansas Medical Center where she will graduate in May 2023. At KUMC, Jessica currently works as the graduate teaching assistant in the Audiology Clinic, and serves as the President of the Student Academy of Audiology. She has a special interest in pediatric hearing loss and language acquisition as well as hearing loss in individuals with cognitive disabilities. Rock Chalk!



# Alumni Updates



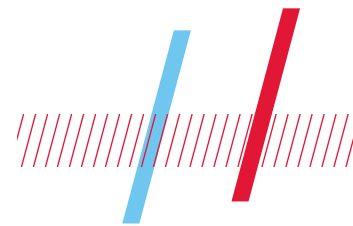
**Leland Maniloff** (B.A. 1990) currently lives on the tropical island of Dominica. From his deck/office surrounded by hummingbirds and overlooking waterfalls, he does yoga and provides consulting services to banks and financial institutions in the United States. An education in Linguistics is a gift that kept giving. For example, I took Japanese, German, and Guarani at KU. Here in Dominica they speak French, Spanish, Island Carib, Carib pidgin, and both Dominican Creole and Haitian Creole. I get along fine. A ‘B’ in field methods from Dr. Robert Rankin and phonetics from Dr. Frances Ingemann is a passport to go anywhere in the world. My current career began when I learned to read and write the language of government regulations.



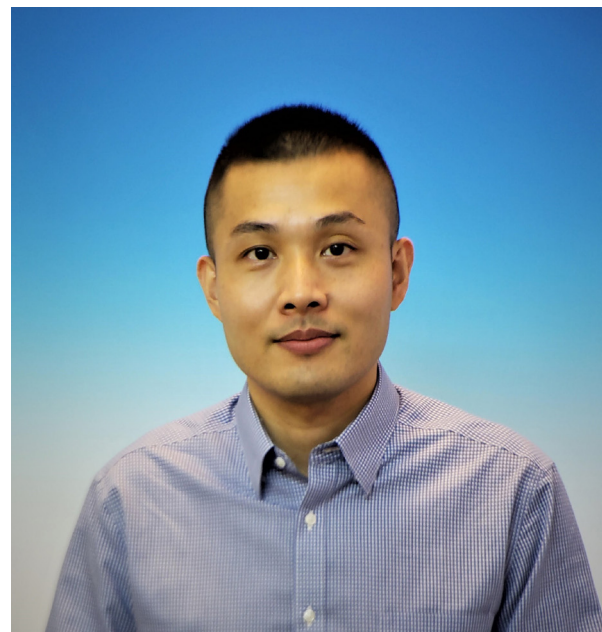
**Bailey (Reimer) Page** (B.A. 2013) is entering her fifth year at the Ewing Marion Kauffman School in Kansas City, MO where she serves as the school’s School Operations Manager. While her day-to-day work is mainly in managing virtual learning communications and attendance, she credits her Linguistics and American Studies backgrounds as laying the foundation for her deep belief that students from diverse backgrounds (be they linguistically diverse, racially diverse or otherwise) deserve an excellent school with well-run systems. She also got married and bought a house this year so 2020 wasn’t all bad!



# Alumni Updates

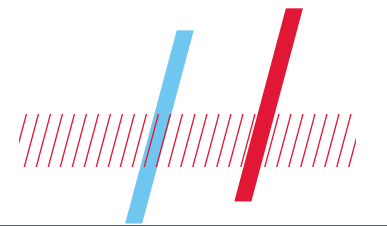


**Pedro Mateo Pedro** (Ph.D. 2010) recently started a position as an Assistant Professor in Linguistics at the University of Toronto. His publications include “Acquisition of Causatives in Q’anjob’al”, “La reconstrucción de la adquisición fonológica del proto-maya”, co-authored with his former academic advisor, Dr. Clifton Pye, and Dr. Barbara Pfeiler. He wrote a book chapter on the “Acquisition of the verb morphology in Chuj” that will appear in an edited volume on Chuj and will be published by the Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM). He continues organizing intensive courses of K’iche’ and Kaqchikel (this time online) in collaboration with Dr. Maria Polinsky (University of Maryland) and with native speakers of K’iche’ and Kaqchikel as main instructors. In April of 2021, he will be giving a MillerComm lecture at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He will start a collaborative project on the documentation and acquisition of two Mayan languages: K’iche’ and Awakateko with Dr. Maria Carmen Parafita Couto (Leiden University) (Ph.D. 2005) and Dr. Maria Polinsky (University of Maryland) (<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/research/research-projects/humanities/mayan-languages-in-contact>).



**Zhen Quentin Qin** (Ph.D. 2017) started his tenure-track position as Assistant Professor at the Division of Humanities, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He continued his project on the role of sleep-mediated memory consolidation in tone learning, and started a new project on second-language learners’ productivity of Mandarin tone sandhi. He just published an article (Qin, Z., Zhang, C., & Wang, W. S-Y. 2021. The effect of Mandarin listeners’ musical and pitch aptitude on perceptual learning of Cantonese level-tones. *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, 149, 435-4460). with his collaborators in Hong Kong. Although it has been a highly difficult time, he always stays positive about the future.

# Alumni Updates



**James Tandy** (B.A. 2017) is pursuing a Ph.D. in Linguistics at the University of Texas at Austin. James continues his research on Mayan derivational morphology that he began at KU. In February 2020, he presented a talk at the Texas Linguistics Society about language contact in the history of Mayan perfect marking. He is also learning Poqomchi’ and has a back burner project working with a 17th-century Colonial Poqomchi’ manuscript. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, biking, and making music.



**Xiao Yang** (Ph.D. 2020) is working as a Language Data Researcher at Amazon Alexa at Cambridge, Massachusetts. She uses her linguistics background and data skills to help Alexa better understand and interact with users. In addition to her 9-5 job, Xiao is writing a manuscript based on her NSF-sponsored dissertation on predictive cues in processing Mandarin relative clauses, working with Drs. Robert Fiorentino, Alison Gabriele, Utako Minai, and Steve Politzer-Ahles (Ph.D. 2013), and is conducting a follow-up study to examine this topic via behavioral methods. In her spare time, Xiao enjoys hiking, exploring neighborhoods around Boston, and working out at home (including shoveling snow after winter storms).



**Argenis Arturo Zapata-Becerra** (M.A. 1985; Ph.D. Education, 2001) finished his Ph.D. in Education, “Overcoming Plateaus in Second Language Acquisition”. He then returned to Venezuela and resumed his teaching activities in the Department of Modern Languages at Universidad de Los Andes (ULA). There he taught English Phonetics and Phonology to the students majoring in English, Applied Linguistics, EFL Teaching Methods and Research Methodology for almost ten years. Argenis emphasizes the training he received from the Department of Linguistics was instrumental in his Phonetics and Phonology and Applied Linguistics classes. January 2010 marked almost 35 years at ULA and his retirement. However, he continues to be interested in research and publications on English Phonetics and Phonology, TEFL, and ESL (especially, in fossilization and Plateaus in ESL/EFL acquisition/learning). Lately, he’s been engaged in learning Brazilian Portuguese and Italian.



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